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20 August 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director for Science and Technology

SUBJECT : Daily Activity Report - 20 August 1963

1. Mission Status

a. IDEALIST - The U-2 detachments at Edwards AFB, California, [redacted] are in a standby status.

b. BRASS KNOB - The SAC U-2 mission over Cuba on 19 August was cancelled.

c. CORONA - CORONA-J satellite remains scheduled for launch on 21 August.

2. OX CART Aircraft Status

a. Aircraft #121 (J-58 engines) - A right side spike control was changed and preflight engine runs resumed on 19 August in preparation for and envelope extension flight now scheduled for 0700 hours, 20 August.

b. Aircraft #122 (J-58 engines) - Made flight #21 on 19 August for a duration of twenty-two minutes. After take-off the landing gear doors malfunctioned in that the doors could not be closed tightly. The flight was aborted.

c. Aircraft #124 (trainer) - Made flight #120 on 19 August for a duration of 1:10 hours. The purpose of this flight was air refueling proficiency training for an operational pilot.

d. Aircraft #125 (J-58 engines) - Completed preflight inspection

[redacted]
Next flight scheduled for 1000 hours, 20 August.

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e. Aircraft #126 (J-58 engines) - Undergoing post flight inspection and correction of afterburner "teb" probe malfunction which occurred on the last flight of this aircraft. Also, a flight control malfunction encountered on the last flight is under investigation.

f. Aircraft #127 (J-58 engines) - A nose wheel steering solenoid valve was replaced on 19 August as a result of a difficulty encountered during taxi tests of the aircraft. Next flight is scheduled for 0900 hours, 20 August.

g. Aircraft #128 (J-58 engines) - In final assembly. Estimated readiness for ground runs and pre-flight test: 2 September.

3. Status CORONA Triple Prime Camera for U-2

The CORONA triple prime camera #51 has been assembled and is undergoing environmental testing in an Itek laboratory. This testing will continue until 27 August. Thereafter the camera will be returned to Itek's engineering facility for final check-out and shipment to Burbank for flight test. Itek has managed to speed up the delivery of this system from mid-September to a new target date of 3 September.

4. Sonic Boom Tests

Sonic boom tests will begin [] on 19 August and run through 23 August.

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5. Project EARNING

Lockheed and Pratt and Whitney have been notified that the Secretary of Defense has authorized procurement of long lead time items for the production of 25 R-12 EARNING aircraft. The R-12 is the Air Force reconnaissance version of the A-12.

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